

REMARKS

Responsive to the restriction requirement, Applicants elect to prosecute the claims of Group I, i.e., claims 12 to 18, with traverse.

Claims 12 to 18 refer to a substrate having at least three layers, i.e. a first, a second layer and an intermediate layer which is arranged between these two layers.

The first and second layer comprise the same base material. The intermediate layer comprises a chemical compound of the base material and a further material.

The method claims 19 to 22 refer to the production of a substrate which also has three layers, i.e. a first layer, an intermediate layer and a second layer, the intermediate layer being arranged on top of the first layer and the second layer being arranged on top of the intermediate layer.

The intermediate layer is formed by evaporating a base material with a further material, whereas the first and second layers comprise only the base material because only the base material is vaporized to form these two layers.

Thus, the coating process is relied on technical features which are not different from the structure of the substrate having a Fabry-Perot filter, since the method claimed is used to form the substrate with three layers according to claims 12 to 18.

Furthermore, it would not be an undue burden on the Examiner to examine both groups of claims at the same time.

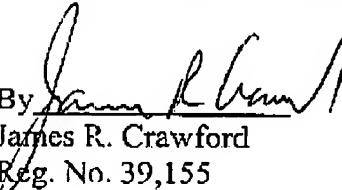
Note that new claim 23 requires that the subject matter of claim 12 be prepared with the claimed process.

In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of the restriction requirement is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 50-0624, under Order No. NY-AFILM-204-US.

Respectfully submitted

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